

**Agenda Item: D.4**

Request for Decision

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** | **Sturgeon County Operations and Events COVID-19 Status  (June 14 - Onward)** |
|  |  |
| **Proposed Motion** | That Council approve all scheduled Sturgeon County operations and events from June 14, 2021 onward to proceed in formats that meet the provincial health directives of the time, phasing in-person service delivery and events into County operations in a manner that is safe and prudent for residents, County staff, members of Council and within Alberta Health Services COVID-19 restrictions and reopenings. |
|  |  |
| **Administrative**  **Recommendation** | Administration recommends that Council approve the recommendation to adjust the delivery of County services, workshops, events, and engagements from June 14, 2021 onward according to the most recent provincial health restrictions and reopening measures. This recommendation includes a planned reopening of front-counter service at County buildings on June 14, 2021 as well as adjustments to outdoor and indoor workshops, events, and engagements to allow for in-person delivery as COVID-19 restrictions are removed. The location, size, and scope of each event would be determined on a case-by-case basis based on factors such as provincial restrictions, community standards, and event delivery best practices. |
|  |  |
| **Previous Council Direction** | April 27, 2021 Regular Council Meeting  Motion 252/21: That Council approve all scheduled Sturgeon County in-person events in May and June 2021 to proceed with either modified formats that ensure that all provincial health directives are met or be postponed where possible.  August 11, 2020 Regular Council Meeting  Motion 359/20: That Council approve the 2020 Mayor's State of the County and Sturgeon Proud (Volunteer Appreciation) events proceeding with modified formats while ensuring that all provincial health directives are met.  June 30, 2020 Regular Council Meeting  Motion 297/20: That Council cancel the 2020 Agricultural Service Board Tour, postpone a decision on the 2020 Mayor’s State of the County Address to the August 11, 2020 Council meeting, and support a virtual offering of the Culinary Cookout if feasible. |
|  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Report** | **Background Information**   * **Stage 1:** On June 1, 2021, Alberta entered into Stage 1 of its *Open for Summer Plan*, with plans to move to Stage 2 on June 10, and Stage 3, which is a complete reopening (with all restrictions lifted), in late June or early July. The three stage plan is tied directly to vaccination rates and hospitalization numbers. * As of June 1, 2021, all indoor social gatherings are still prohibited, and outdoor social gatherings can have up to 10 people with 2-metre physical distancing between households; some businesses continue to be temporarily closed, operate with reduced capacity or limit in-person access; and masks remain mandatory in all indoor public places, indoor workplaces, and places of worship. * **Stage 2:** If hospitalization rates remain below 500 as of June 10, 2021, the mandatory work from home order will be lifted but still recommended, and restrictions are relaxed to allow for:   + Outdoor social gatherings of up to 20 people;   + Indoor recreation at one-third capacity;   + Youth activities (day camps, overnight camps, play centres) - resume with restrictions;   + Youth and adult sports – resume with no restrictions, indoors and outdoors;   + Outdoor public gatherings (concerts/festivals) – up to 150 people; and   + Outdoor fixed seating facilities (grandstands) – one-third seated capacity. * Currently, all in-person services at Sturgeon County facilities are by appointment only. When the mandatory work from home order is lifted, Administration intends to open front counter services on June 14th. * **Stage 3**: all restrictions are scheduled to be lifted two weeks after 70% of Albertans 12+ (born in 2009 or earlier) have received at least one dose. This is expected to be effective in late June or early July. Isolation requirements for confirmed cases of COVID-19 and some protective measures in continuing care settings remain. * Currently, most Sturgeon County events, engagements, and presentations are being held online. Some of the planned events and engagements over the next few months include:   + Prospective Candidate Information Session (June 23, online)   + Wellness on Wheels Community Outreach Program (June 15 until the end of August, outdoor and in person)   + Dale MacMillan Scholarship Presentation (August, in person)   + Resource Extraction Regulatory Review Public Engagement (online throughout the summer, in person indoor session(s) being planned for late August/early September)   + Mayor’s Golf Tournament (September, in person) * As of June 1, 2021, there were 33 active cases of COVID-19 in Sturgeon County, 6 in Morinville, 59 in St. Albert, and 1,395 in Edmonton. * As of June 2nd, there were 411 current hospitalizations, 120 people in ICU and 64.6% of the 12+ population who received at least one dose.   External Communication   * If approved by Council, the modified formats of service delivery and events will be communicated to the public.   Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:   * *Municipal Government Act* |
|  |  |
| **Implication of Administrative Recommendation** | Strategic Alignment  **Strong Local and Regional Governance** – Ensuring that service delivery and events proceed while complying with provincial health requirements demonstrates strong local and regional leadership.  **Community Identity and Spirit –** Community events support resident and stakeholder identity with Sturgeon County.  Organizational   * Administration will adapt service delivery and provide assistance in the planning and execution of events as approved by Council.   Financial |
|  | * Event budgets are included as part of the 2021 Operating Budget. |
| **Alternatives Considered** | 1. Council could direct the planned events scheduled for July 2021 onward to proceed online. |
|  |  |
| **Implications of Alternatives** | 1. The format of these events would be communicated to prospective attendees, and alternate arrangements would be made to communicate County information to stakeholders. |
|  |  |
| **Follow up Action** | 1. Proceed with the reopening of front counters on June 14 and planning and execution of approved events. |
|  |  |
| **Attachment(s)** | None. |
|  |  |
| **Report Reviewed by:** | Lucas Warren, Manager, Corporate Communications  Reegan McCullough, County Commissioner – CAO |

**Strategic Alignment Checklist**

**Vision:** *Sturgeon County: a diverse, active community that pioneers opportunities and promotes initiative while embracing rural lifestyles.*

**Mission:** *Provide quality, cost effective services and infrastructure to meet the diverse needs of the Sturgeon County community, while improving competitiveness and sustainability.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Focus Areas** | **Not consistent** | **N/A** | **Consistent** |
| **Planned Growth and Prosperity** |  |  |  |
| *We encourage varied and integrated enterprises that enhance our strong economic*  *base, while balancing the needs of the community and natural environment.*  *(Strategic Plan and MDP pg. 36)* |  |  |  |
| * *Supports a strong thriving business environment to strengthen our economic foundation* |  |  |  |
| * *Plans for responsible growth through the MDP and regional growth plan.* |  |  |  |
| * *Manages growth for current and future developments through:*   + *transparent bylaws, policies and processes to enable responsible land development* |  |  |  |
| * + *targeting growth around existing and identified future growth areas* |  |  |  |
| **Maintain and Enhance Strong Communities** |  |  |  |
| *We are committed to a safe and viable community, where our residents are*  *provided with access to opportunities and quality of life.*  *(Strategic Plan and pg. 27 MDP)* |  |  |  |
| * *Provides access to programs and services that have a positive impact on residents’ quality of life* |  |  |  |
| * *Provides access to safe and reliable infrastructure assets* |  |  |  |
| * *Supports the safety of people and property* |  |  |  |
| **Strong Local and Regional Governance** |  |  |  |
| *We promote consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and*  *transparent processes (Strategic Plan and pg. 27 MDP)* |  |  |  |
| * *Provides effective leadership and management consistent with Strategic Plan, MDP, master plans, bylaws, policies, community engagement* |  |  |  |
| * *Considers fiscal stability and sustainability* |  |  |  |
| * *Fosters collaborative intergovernmental partnerships* |  |  |  |
| **Community Identity & Spirit** |  |  |  |
| *We will build upon our strengths, where together we will create an inclusive, caring community (Strategic Plan and MDP pg. 27)* |  |  |  |
| * *Promotes and/or enhances residents’ identification with Sturgeon County* |  |  |  |
| * *Support and/or collaborate with voluntary organizations in the region* |  |  |  |
| **Environmental Stewardship** |  |  |  |
| *We foster a healthy environment and minimize our impact on ecosystems. (Strategic Plan and MDP pg. 27)* |  |  |  |
| * *Plans and partnerships that minimize environmental impact on natural areas* |  |  |  |
| * *Provides awareness of environmental issues impacting the County* |  |  |  |